

Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee
May 12, 2014
Minutes

Committee members present: Chairman Tom Rudolph, Jim Intrepidi, Robb Jensen and Bob Mott. Absent: Scott Holewinski and Clint Zimbeck.

Others present: Erica Brewster, Tim Brown, Lynn Feldman, Jean Hansen, Tom Schmitz (UWEX Regional Director), Stephanie Boismenu (AIS), Fred Heider (NCWRPC), Bill Freudenberg (County Supervisor), Karl Jennrich (Planning & Zoning) and Kerri Ison.

Call to order/Chairperson's announcements: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. noting the agenda was been properly posted and the facility is handicap accessible.

Chairman Rudolph welcomed Robb Jensen to the Committee. Roundtable introductions were held. It is hoped the Committee can conduct business in an orderly and respectful fashion.

Hansen introduced Stephanie Boismenu, AIS Project Assistant. She will be with the AIS program for the summer.

Approve agenda: Motion by Intrepidi/Mott to approve today's agenda with the order of items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve minutes: Motion by Intrepidi/Mott to approve the minutes of 2/10/14 and 4/7/14 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Election of Vice Chair: Motion by Intrepidi/Jensen to nominate Bob Mott for Vice Chair. All ayes; motion carried. Motion by Jensen/Intrepidi to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot to elect Bob Mott as Vice Chair. All ayes; motion carried.

Committee orientation: Hansen provided information regarding the Land and Water Conservation Department, duties of LCC Committees and staff. Hard copies of the Five-Year Land and Water Resource Management Plan were provided to new Committee members.

UWEX staff presented UW-Extension "Jeopardy" game to introduce staff, programs, services and general administration information to the Committee.

Rudolph noted committee members are each charged with serving as commissioner on several lake districts. Committee members Rudolph (Horsehead Lake), Intrepidi (Lake Nokomis) and Mott (Mid Lake) will continue their appointments. Rudolph appointed Jensen to serve as Bear Lake commissioner and Holewinski as Thunder Lake commissioner.

Rudolph noted an appointment is needed to represent the Committee on the Lumberjack RC&D Council. Rudolph and Mott will continue to serve as representative and alternate on the Lumberjack RC&D Council.

DATCP Farmland Preservation Plan (FPP): The Farmland Preservation Program allows qualifying farmers to sign up to help preserve the local farming community and helps reduce

property taxes. Hansen noted the County is currently working from a plan created in 1973. DATCP is requiring the plan be updated by the end of 2014. Grant funding was secured to assist with the costs of NCWRPC and a portion of Jennrich's time.

Heider noted a Technical Committee and a Citizens Advisory Committee must be formed and provided handout regarding same. Volunteers are needed to serve on these committees, which consist of three two-hour meetings over the course of the summer. Committee members and staff were asked to help seek out volunteers to serve on these committees. Heider suggested incorporating forestry lands to help expand the program in Oneida County. Discussion followed.

Dates of future meetings:

6/9/14	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room
7/8/14	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room

Consent agenda items:

Additional travel requested for Committee members:

5/9-10/14 WI County Conservationist meeting WI Rapids

Ison reviewed line item transfer needed to record a budget for the LWC LTE that is being funded through Lumberjack RC&D.

Motion by Mott/Jensen to approve the consent agenda items as amended. All ayes; motion carried.

Oneida County Fair update: Intrepidi noted contract for A-1 septic was approved and discussion was held regarding changing quorum requirements at the last meeting. CUW Committee discussed the issue and felt the development of an Executive Committee to handle contracts and accounts payable in a timely manner should be considered.

Agency reports as needed:

Lake Districts: Rudolph reported Horsehead Lake is still working with shoreland owners and DNR to get access for the weed harvester.

FSA: Discussion was held regarding FSA representative term of office and attendance. Rudolph requested Hansen draft a letter to the current member regarding duties and attendance.

OCEDC: Brown noted there has been discussion to bring a FAB Lab to the Three Lakes High School for student used during the day and entrepreneurs after school hours. Brown, Luce and Sidlowski worked together to submit a grant for the project and they have received notification of a \$132,000 award. Senator Tiffany, Representative Swearingen and a deputy from the Secretary of Workforce Development will be holding a roundtable opportunity with local businesses in the UWEX meeting room on Thursday.

LWCB: Nominations will be accepted for a LWCB representative at the NCA meeting on 5/29/14. Representation from the northern part of the state is needed.

WLWCA: Rudolph attended a Board meeting last week in Appleton. Discussion was held regarding the need to replace the president and membership dues will be increased by \$50.

RC&D: Mott reported the Pelican Lake Association was awarded approximately \$10,000 to build a demonstration buffer zone plot near the Schoepke Town Hall on Highway 45. Hansen reported RC&D approved a 500-hour LTE position for the Land Conservation Department to help lake associations with woody habitat, emergent and submergent vegetation and also work on the

website.

WACEC: Mott and Rudolph attended the WACEC regional meeting in Rothschild; both were appointed to positions in the organization.

State WACEC Conference: The State WACEC meeting will be held 6/23-24/14 in Eau Claire. Registration is due 5/31/14. Brewster has registration materials. Rudolph urged all committee members attend.

Office update: Brewster reported on a recent meeting with Billy Fried, Luann Brunette, Joe Brauer, Lisa Charbarneau, Tom Rudolph, Scott Holewinski and Bob Heck (via telephone) to discuss air quality issues and space needs. Brewster shared the itemized list of departmental needs/wants provided at that meeting which was sent back to the CUW Committee to be prioritized. She received an email from Brunette indicating the file has been closed with the State as testing showed the environment is safe. NIOSH is working on the final report. Lengthy discussion followed regarding history of the issues, priorities and time lines, etc. Mott suggested a priority list as: safety needs first, office space (ask for outside design team to come in to offer a perspective), updated telephone system/internet access, process for communication, clarification/delineation of Airport and County responsibility and signage. Discussion continued. Motion by Mott/Intrepid to submit a prioritized list of needs (as discussed) signed by the Committee Chair to Buildings and Grounds Department. All ayes; motion carried.

Brown noted these issues have really affected staff morale, especially over the past few weeks. Rudolph feels we have a very fine staff and would like to keep it that way.

County cost share program update/approval: Ison reported staff is currently doing surveys and site visits.

WNEP Coordinator position update: Brewster reported Kim Brown has accepted the position as WNEP Coordinator for Oneida/Langlade Counties. She will start on 6/16/14.

Monthly staff report: Nothing further; covered under orientation.

Items for next agenda: Secretarial support for UW/LC, FP, office updates.

Adjournment: Motion by Mott/Intrepid to adjourn at 4:28 p.m. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary

Tom Rudolph, Chair